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## **REMARKS**

### **1. Specification.**

The Specification has been amended as requested by the Examiner so to conform USPTO practice. Specifically, Applicant has inserted the proper headings and has replaced references to claims with the appropriate text from the respective original claims. No new matter has been added.

### **2. Claims.**

The claims have been reviewed and amended for clarity. More specifically, the claims have been amended to place them in better English and to better conform to USPTO preferred practice. These changes were not made to address any prior art, and no new matter has been added to the claims. Applicant submits that these clarifications address the examiner's 35 USC 112 concerns and Applicant requests that the examiner withdraw the objection to Claims based on 35 USC 112.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the structural relationship between the various components of the invention. No new matter has been added.

Claims 2-4 have not been amended.

Claim 5 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 1, 4, and 5. As Claim 5 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 1) and any intervening claim(s) (Claim 4), Claim 5 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 6 has been amended to remove a redundant limitation. No new matter has been added.

Claim 7 has not been amended.

Claim 8 has been amended to depend from Claim 1. No new matter has been added.

Claim 9 has not been amended.

Claim 10 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 8 and 10. As Claim 10 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 8) and any intervening claim(s) (none), Claim 10 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 11 has been amended for clarity. No new matter has been added.

Claim 12 has been amended to depend from Claim 1 and for clarity. No new matter has been added.

Claim 13 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 12 and 13. As Claim 13 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 12) and any intervening claims (none), Claim 13 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 14 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 12 and 14. As Claim 14 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 12) and any intervening claims (none), Claim 14 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 15 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 12 and 15. As Claim 15 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 12) and any intervening claims (none), Claim 15 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 16 has been amended to depend from Claim 1 and for clarity. No new matter has been added.

Claims 17-21 have been amended for clarity. No new matter has been added.

Claim 22 has been has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 16, 17, 21, and 22. As Claim 22 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 16) and any intervening claims (Claims 17 and 21), Claim 22 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 23 has been has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 16, 17, 21, and 23. As Claim 23 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 16) and any intervening claims (Claims 17 and 21), Claim 23 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 24 has been amended to depend from Claim 1 and for clarity. No new matter has been added.

Claim 25 has been amended for clarity. No new matter has been added.

Claim 26 has not been amended.

Claim 27 has been amended for clarity. No new matter has been added.

Claims 28-30 have not been amended.

Claim 31 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 24, 29, 30, and 31. As Claim 31 was deemed to be

allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 24) and any intervening claims (Claims 29 and 30), Claim 31 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 32 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 24, 29, 30, and 32. As Claim 32 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 24) and any intervening claims (Claims 29 and 30), Claim 32 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 33 has not been amended.

Claim 34 has been canceled.

Claim 35 has been amended for clarity. No new matter has been added.

Claim 36 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 34 and 36. As Claim 36 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 34) and any intervening claims (none), Claim 36 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 37 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 34 and 37. As Claim 37 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 34) and any intervening claims (none), Claim 37 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 38 has been amended for clarity. No new matter has been added.

Claim 39 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 34, 38, and 39. As Claim 39 was deemed to be allowable if was combined with its base claim (Claim 34) and any intervening claims (Claim 38), Claim 39 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Applicant has submitted previously payment for 39 total claims and 6 independent claims. The amendments to the claims result in 38 total claims and 14 independent claims, so an additional excess claims fee is attached to this Response.

### **3. Drawings.**

No new drawings or changes to the drawings are necessary. Both of the features mentioned by the examiner, namely the torque-transmitting means and its splined profile, are shown in the drawings and/or are so well-known in the mechanical power transmission fields that those of even minimal skill in the art would know exactly their configuration.

The torque-transmitting means of Claim 10 is the combination of the flange plate 40 and the output shaft 35 as shown on FIG. 5. More particularly, the interior

of flange 40 has a splined profile 41 that corresponds and cooperates with the exterior of output shaft 35, which also has a splined profile. As disclosed on page 14, line 25 through page 15, line 6 of the Specification:

On the drive side 33, a coupling flange 39 is assigned to an end wall 38 of the mangle roll 10. A flange plate 40 resting on the outside of the end 38 of the mangle roll 10 and belonging to the coupling flange 39 is screwed to the end wall 38. A splined profile 41 is machined into the flange plate 40 of the coupling flange 39. The splined profile 41 in the flange plate 40 is formed so as to correspond with the profile of the output drive shaft 35 of the angled epicyclic gearbox 36, likewise formed as a splined profile. By plugging the output drive shaft 35 of the angled epicyclic gearbox 36 into the splined profile of the plug-on sleeve 41, a torque-transmitting connection is made between the output drive shaft 35 of the angled epicyclic gearbox 36 and the mangle roll 10 on the drive side 33. The plug-on sleeve 41, in particular the splined profile of the same, is arranged concentrically with the longitudinal mid-axis 11 of the mangle roll 10 as a result of which the latter can be driven by the drive 32 so as to rotate about the longitudinal mid-axis 11.

A “spline” is “any of a series of projections on a shaft that fit into slots on a corresponding shaft, enabling both to rotate together”, as defined by *The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition, Copyright © 2000 by Houghton Mifflin Company*. It is common for shafts and flanges to have cooperating splines such that the mechanical (rotational in this instance) power can be transferred from one to the other. Needless to say, smooth shafts and flanges easily can slip, while splined shafts and flanges cannot without a mechanical failure. The contact of the splines of the flange and the shaft transmit torque when one is rotating. The present inventor did not invent splined shafts and flanges, but merely incorporates them into this invention

#### **4. Explanation of the Current State of the Art.**

To assist the examiner, following is a brief summary of limitations of current trough mangles. Until the advent of the present invention, due to the limitations on maximum mangle roller diameters (mangle troughs have been manufactured from

relatively thick steel plates that exhibited little or no flexibility or resilience), it was common practice to arrange a plurality of mangle rollers and mangle troughs in succession in order to increase the mangle performance of a trough mangle. The plurality of successive mangle troughs then had to be connected by so called bridges. This made it necessary to detach or disengage the first piece of laundry leaving the first mangle roller, conduct or transport the piece of laundry across the bridge, and then introduce it without wrinkling into the entry slot of the following mangle roller and its associated mangle trough. In addition, the piece of laundry would cool upon leaving the first mangle and during the transport along the bridge to the next mangle. Thus, the invention is based on the object of creating a higher performance trough mangle.

#### **5. 35 USC 102 Rejections.**

The cited references (Geiger '649 and Ferrage '157) do NOT anticipate Applicant's invention as claimed because Applicant's invention as claimed is structurally and functionally different from the cited references. Anticipation under 35 USC 102(b) requires "the disclosure in a prior art reference each and every element of the claimed invention." *Orthokinetics, Inc. v. Safety Travel Chairs, Inc.*, 1 USPQ2d 1081 (Fed. Cir. 1986); see also *verdegall Bros. V. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) ("a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference"). The absence of one element from the cited prior reference negates anticipation. See *Atlas Powder Co. v. E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.*, 224 USPQ2d 409 (Fed Cir. 1984). Anticipation was intended to apply in the limited situations in which one reference incorporates all the element of a claim in a subsequent invention because the nonobvious standard was intended to cover broader obvious leaps from a reference to a claim or from combined references to a claim. See *Titanium Metals Corp. v. Brenner*, 227 USPQ 773 (Fed. Cir. 1985). The Federal Circuit has applied anticipation narrowly. See *Glaverbel Societe Anonyme And Fosbel, Inc. v. Northlake Marketing & Supply, Inc.*, 33 USPQ2d 1496 (Fed Cir. 1995). As discussed in more detail below, the cited references do not anticipate the present invention.

**A. Geiger '649 does not Anticipate Claims 16-21.**

Geiger '649 does not anticipate Claims 16-21 because these claims claim matter patentably distinct from Geiger '649. Geiger '649 discloses a laundry mangle having at least one mangle roller held in a working position inside a heatable trough by at least one carrying arm. The mangle roller and the trough are held in relative moveable positions by at least one adjusting member, delimiting together the inlet and outlet sides of a passage of laundry pieces. On the basis of this arrangement, a uniform ironing pressure with the trough can be generated with two identical working cylinders when the arm is shortened on the exhaust side of the mangle.

Geiger '649 does not disclose Applicant's invention as claimed in Claims 16-21. Specifically, Geiger '649 does not disclose the combination of a trough mangle and mangle roll having (a) at least one rotary driven mangle roll attached on both the drive side and the non-driven side to a frame, (b) a flexible mangle trough associated with the mangle roll, and (c) a lever mechanism allowing the mangle roll to pivot. See Claim 16. Geiger '649 initially does not teach a trough mangle in which the mangle roll is driven to revolve within a flexible mangle trough. In fact the mangle roll in Geiger '649 moves in a manner relative to the trough as a function of the frictional forces. Specifically, as shown in FIG. 1 of Applicant's present application, the mangle trough is through, for example, swinging support (18). As the mangle trough in Geiger '649 does not contain a flexible mangle trough, Geiger '649 cannot anticipate Claim 16 or any claim dependant therefrom, namely Claims 17-21.

For these reasons, Geiger '649 does not disclose Applicant's invention as claimed in Claims 16-21. Specifically, Geiger '649 does not disclose at least a trough mangle containing a flexible mangle trough. As such, Applicant requests that the examiner withdraw the anticipation rejection of Claim 16-21 based on Geiger '649.

**B. Ferrage '157 does not Anticipate Claims 24-30.**

Ferrage '157 also does not anticipate Claims 24-30 because these claims claim matter patentably distinct from Ferrage '157. Ferrage '157 does not disclose a trough mangle and trough roll combination having (a) a flexible mangle trough in which (b) the mangle trough is resilient and is formed of trough sections connected to one another. In Ferrage '157, the trough sections are NOT connected to one another. In fact, grooves (e.g. 21 and 22) provide interruptions between the trough

sections in Ferrage '157. As Claim 24 specifically claims a mangle in which the sections are "connected to one another", Ferrage '157 does not anticipate Claim 24 or any claim dependant therefrom, namely Claims 25-30.

### 3. 35 USC 103 Rejections.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 34, 35, 38, and 39 of the present patent application are not obvious over Ferrage '157, Katterbach '747, and/or Wong '031 because Applicant's invention is patentably distinct over Ferrage '157, Katterbach '747 and/or Wong '031. More specifically, the device is structurally and functionally nonobvious over the combination of references. As clarified, the claims disclose and claim a device patentably distinct from the cited art, both in structure and in function.

For a claim to be determined obvious (or nonobvious) under 35 USC 103, the claimed material must have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art from the prior art. An obviousness determination requires examining (1) the scope of the *prior art*, (2) the *level of skill* in the art, and (3) the *differences* between the prior art and Applicant's invention. *Litton Systems, Inc. v. Honeywell, Inc.*, 117 SCt 1270 (1970). A mere suggestion to further experiment with disclosed principles would not render obvious an invention based on those principles. *Uniroyal, Inc. v. Rudkin-Wiley Corp.*, 19 USPQ2d 1432 (Fed. Cir. 1991). In fact, an applicant may use a reference as a basis for further experimentation and to create the invention. *Id.*

The fact that each element in a claimed invention is old or unpatentable does not determine the nonobviousness of the claimed invention as a whole. See *Custom Accessories, Inc., v. Jeffrey-Allan Industries*, 1 USPQ2d 1196 1986 (Fed. Cir. 1986). The prior art must not be given an overly broad reading, but should be read in the context of the patent specifications and *as intended by reference authors*. *Durling v. Spectrum Furniture Co.*, 40 USPQ2d 1788 (Fed Cir 1996) (Federal Circuit held that district court erred by giving a "too broad an interpretation" of claims in a sofa patent to invalidate another on the nonobviousness standard).

The Federal Circuit has made it clear that the nonobviousness standard is applied wrongly if a court or an examiner (1) improperly focuses on "a combination of old elements" rather than the invention as a whole, (2) ignores objective evidence of nonobviousness, (3) pays lip service to the presumption of validity, and (4) fails to make sufficient *Graham* findings. *Custom Accessories, Inc.*, 1 USPQ2d 1196 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Applying the nonobviousness test counter to these principles counters the



principle that a patent application is presumed nonobvious. *Id.*

To sustain a rejection under 35 USC 103, the examiner must establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness. MPEP §2142. To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. MPEP §2143. This is not the case with the cited art.

The present invention is based on the novelty, in complete departure from the conventional practice, that mangle performance can be increased not merely by increasing the number of successive mangle rolls and mangle troughs, but instead by increasing the diameter of the mangle roll beyond the previous limits. In other words, conventional wisdom held that mangle performance only increased by adding mangle trough and rolls - not by increasing the diameter of the mangle roll. The surprising result of this (increasing the mangle roll diameter) is that the same performance of two successive mangle rolls each having a diameter of 1300 mm can be achieved by a single mangle roll having a diameter of 1600 mm or greater, even though the length of the smoothing surface of the individual 1600 mm diameter mangle rolls is smaller than the sum of the lengths of the smoothing surfaces of the two 1300 mm diameter mangle rolls.

Even assuming that the smoothing surface of the mangle roll of the mangle trough conventionally extends over approximately half of the lower circumference of its mangle roll, then the two smoothing surfaces of the two mangles rolls extending over the half of the circumference of the mangle roller have a respective diameter of 1300 mm together with a length of 4082 mm. In contrast, Applicant's single smoothing surface running across the half of the circumference of the mangle roll with a representative diameter of 2000 mm only has a length of 3140 mm. To phrase it differently, Applicant's trough mangle having a single mangle roll of 2000 mm in diameter demonstrates greater mangle performance than a trough having successively mangle rolls with a total smoothing surface of the same length.

The present invention also is based on nonobvious insight. More specifically, the hitherto necessary restriction in diameter of the mangle roll to a maximum diameter of approximately 1500 mm is circumvented by using a resilient mangle trough whose smoothing surface nestles against the mangle roll in a uniform and continuous manner. This is realized in that, due to the greater diameter of the mangle roll, the mangle trough is greater in diameter, which makes the mangle trough more resilient (pliable). By virtue of the resilient mangle trough and the larger

diameter of the mangle roll, there is no need to apply greater pressing forces between the mangle roll and the mangle trough. In particular, it is not necessary to provide the pneumatic cylinders required in, for example, Ferrage '157 with a force of 6000 daN and to increase the pressing force to correspond to the greater roll diameter. The greater resilience of the mangle trough resulting from the larger mangle roll diameter makes any increase in the pressure force superfluous.

Through its combination of a resilient mangle trough with a mangle roll diameter greater than that previously used in conventional applications, the invention achieves a further surprising effect. This is that the mangle trough must naturally be larger to correspond to the larger mangle roll. A larger mangle trough also exhibits a greater resilience than a smaller mangle trough. As a result, the mangle trough nestles better against the larger mangle roll, which reliably results in a continuous smoothing surface and consistent pressure forces of the mangle roll against the mangle trough that are distributed equally across the entire course of the smoothing surface. The laundry item is therefore impinged at all points with the same pressure as it travels across the entire smoothing surface thus achieving a uniform smoothing action. This is the reason why a mangle roll having a greater diameter exhibits a greater mangle performance than two successive mangle rolls with a combined smoothing surface of the same length - the mangle troughs of the smaller mangle rolls are incapable of nesting against the mangle rolls in such a uniform manner across the two smoothing surfaces as it possible in the case of the larger and more resilient mangle troughs for a mangle roll having a diameter greater than 1600 mm.

**A. Claims 1-4, 6, 8 and 9 are Not Obvious over Ferrage '157.**

Claims 1-4, 6, 8 and 9 are not obvious over Ferrage '157 because Claims 1-4, 6, 8 and 9 are patentably distinct from the combination of references. Claim 1 claims a trough mangle in which, inter alia, the mangle trough (12) is resilient such that the mangle trough (12) nestles against a surface of the mangle roll (10) uniformly across the smoothing surface (19), and the mangle roll (10) has a diameter which is greater than 1600 mm. As such, contrary to Ferrage '157, the trough mangle is continuously resilient in its circumferential direction, which allows it to nestle against the mangle roller across the smoothing surface and has a mangle roll (10) greater than 1600 mm. Claims 2-4, 6, 8, and 9 provide further limitations to this mangle trough.

Ferrage '157 does not teach Applicant's invention as claimed in Claim 1 or any

claim dependant therefrom. Specifically, Ferrage '157 discloses a dryer and ironer with a deformable trough. The outside convex surface of the bent plate forming the trough of the rotating cylinder type ironing machine is carved with two grooves which run parallel to its bending axis and divide the trough into three equal curved sectors. Thus, Ferrage '157 is unlike Claim 1 of the present invention in which a resilient trough is claimed, and the present invention is not obvious from Ferrage '157.

Further, Ferrage '157 does not teach a mangle in which the mangle roll has a diameter greater than 1600 mm. While Ferrage '157 does state that the mangle roll can be greater than 1000 mm or 100 cm, due to the technical difficulties discussed previously it was unconventional to provide a mangle roll with a diameter greater than 1600 mm. The diameter of the mangle trough cannot be increased arbitrarily to an ever greater size. Until the advent of Applicant's invention, it would have been unconventional to provide mangle rolls with a diameter greater than 1600mm. As such, Claim 1 is not obvious over Ferrage '157.

Specifically, as mentioned briefly above, the reason behind the previous limitation in the mangle roll diameter of approximately 1500 mm is that the mangle troughs are manufactured from relatively thick steel plates that exhibit little or no flexibility or resilience. Specifically, large-diameter mangle rolls are unconventional because such mangle rolls are insufficient in compensating for thermal stresses arising during the heating and cooling of the mangle of the trough mangle. The lack of compensation leads to cracks in and uncontrolled buckling of the mangle trough. As a result, the mangle trough could achieve only a partial abutment against the mangle roll.

In Ferrage '157, the mangle trough obviously also is formed from thick plates with insufficient resilience. This makes it necessary to provide grooves (21, 22) between the individual sectors (18, 19, 20) of the mangle trough. These grooves form hinges that are meant to facilitate the abutment of the individual sections (18, 19, 20) on the mangle roll. Since the individual sectors are not resilient in and of themselves, a uniform abutment of the mangle trough on the mangle roll is not possible in the Ferrage '157 mangle trough. Furthermore, due to the fact that the mangle trough of Ferrage '157 is made of thick plates, it is necessary to employ pneumatic cylinders (23, 24, 25, 26), which press the mangle trough against the mangle roller with forces up to 6000 daN. This arrangement requires stable and expensive base plates that result in unnecessary loads on the taping of the mangle roll.

Applying the Ferrage '157 principle of thick plates to trough mangles of greater

diameter, i.e. approaching the diameter disclosed by Applicant, would require very high applied forces for pressing the mangle trough against the mangle roll, forces which would exceed the 6000 daN cited by Ferrage '157. Such forces are no longer controllable in mangle troughs. The mangle troughs would have to be made even heavier in order to sustain such forces. Such heavy mangle troughs can no longer be adapted to fit the mangle roll and provide the mangle trough with a continuous smoothing surface on the lower half of the mangle roll.

Thus, without Applicant's disclosure of his inventive step, one of ordinary skill would not have created a mangle trough as disclosed and claimed by Applicant. In fact, as it has been convention to use mangle rolls with a diameter less than 1600, and more specifically less than approximately 1500 mm, this fact argues against the assumption that it is obvious to use a mangle roll with a diameter of 1600 mm or greater. In fact, the examiner has not provided a single reference that suggests or shows a mangle roll with a diameter of 1600 mm or greater. This is objective evidence that it is not obvious to combine multiple features into a unique system.

In summary, Applicant submits that Applicant's invention as claimed in Claim 1 and any claims dependent therefrom are not obvious over Ferrage '157. More particularly, Applicant's invention as claimed in Claim 1 and any claims dependant therefrom is not obvious because (1) Applicant's invention is a patentably distinct invention that is combination of features not disclosed by the prior art and (2) the objective evidence supports a finding of nonobviousness. As such, Applicant's requests that the examiner withdraw the rejection to Claims 1-4, 6, 8 and 9 based on Ferrage '157.

**B. Claims 7, 34, 35 and 38 are Not Obvious over Ferrage '157 and Katterbach '747.**

Claims 7, 34, 35, and 38 are not obvious over Ferrage '157 and Katterbach '747 because Claims 7, 34, 35, and 38 are patentably distinct from the combination of references. Initially, as Claim 7 is ultimately dependent on allowable Claim 1, Claim 7 is allowable for the reason Claim 1 is allowable as discussed above. Further, Claims 34, 35 and 38 claim a trough mangle having a mangle roll (10) that has a wrapping that has a thickness between 6 and 30 mm, which is not shown or obvious from the cited art.

Katterbach '747 does not teach a trough mangle having a wrapping that has a thickness of between 6 and 25 mm. While Katterbach '747 does disclose a material shell of thickness between 8 and 12 mm for a perforated hollow cylindrical drum, there is no suggestion that such a shell could be used for Applicant's trough mangle. In fact, Katterbach '747 specifically discloses the shell in the context with a perforated hollow cylindrical shell. See Col. 3, lines 40-45 and Claim 1-19.

For a claim to be determined obvious (or nonobvious) under 35 USC 103, the claimed material must have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art from the prior art. Examining (1) the scope of the *prior art*, (2) the *level of skill* in the art, and (3) the *differences* between the prior art and Applicant's invention leads one to the conclusion that the cited prior art, especially Katterbach '747, to be inapplicable. See *Litton Systems, Inc. v. Honeywell, Inc.*, 117 SCt 1270 (1970). There is not even a mere suggestion to further experiment with the principles disclosed in the cited art to arrive at Applicant's invention. See *Uniroyal, Inc. v. Rudkin-Wiley Corp.*, 19 USPQ2d 1432 (Fed. Cir. 1991). As such, it would not be obvious to provide such wrapping on Applicant's invention as claimed.

**C. Claim 12 is Not Obvious over Ferrage '157 and Wang '031.**

Claim 12 is not obvious over Ferrage '157 and Wang '031 because Claim 1 is patentably distinct from the combination of references. Wang '031 relates to an electric motor and gearbox particularly for use in food processors, which are substantially different from trough mangles. Because food processors has their own characteristics differing from trough mangles, one of ordinary skill in the art would not turn to food processing machines, such as in Wang '031, in seeking a solution to a problem relating to trough mangles - no one in the trough mangle art would look to food processors for solutions, and vice versa. The sheer magnitude in size and structure differences proves this. In fact, (1) there is not a single word in Wang '031 that suggests an application to trough mangles and (2) Wang '031 does not list a reference to patent relating to ironing devices or trough mangles. Further, the fields of food processing and trough mangles are rarely, if at all, combined to solve problems in Applicant's field.

For a claim to be determined obvious (or nonobvious) under 35 USC 103, the claimed material must have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art from the prior art. Here, the cited prior art is so different as to be inapplicable. See *Litton*

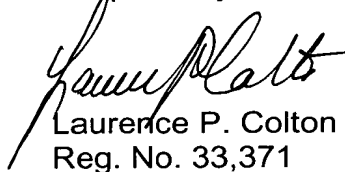
*Systems, Inc. v. Honeywell, Inc.*, 117 SCt 1270 (1970). As mentioned above, there is not even a mere suggestion in Wang '031 to look at the trough mangle field when developing inventions for the food processor field (and Applicant certainly would not look to the food processor field in its experimentations), and thus Wang '031 in its disparate field would not render obvious Applicant's invention based on those principles. See *Uniroyal, Inc. v. Rudkin-Wiley Corp.*, 19 USPQ2d 1432 (Fed. Cir. 1991). As such, Applicant requests that the examiner withdraw the rejection based on Wang '031.

## CONCLUSION

Applicant believes it has fully addressed the examiner's concerns and the claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests such action.

If the examiner has any final concerns that can be addressed over the telephone, the examiner is invited to contact the below-signed attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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